Tulip Grove, Vicinity of Hermitage, Tenn. HABS No. TENN-127HABS

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PHOTOGRAPHS WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA District of Tennessee

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY GENTRAL UNIT—ST. LOUIS

Historic American Buildings Survey J. Frazer Smith, District Officer Goodwyn Institute Bldg., Memphis, Tenn.

"TULIP GROVE"

South side Lebanon Road, 2 miles North of Hermitage Station, Tenn.

Physical Data

Present owner: Mrs. Charles E. Buntin.

Present occupant and use: Buntin home.

Description (present condition)

Wall construction: Brick.

Size and form: Rectangular, 2 rear wings - one a kitchen - one a nursery. Number stories: Two.

Front porch: 4 column Doric wood columns: Rear porch: Not old.

Exterior openings, doors: Good front doorway.

Cornice: Triglyph, Doric wood in front.

Interior:

Floors: Wide yellow poplar floors covered with hardwood.

Doors: In entrance hall, 8 panel doors with curly walnut panels.

Trim: "Doorbell."

Mantels: Original, highly varied. Stairways: Elliptical mehogany.

Plasterwork: Old rosette in front hall, new ones in other rooms.

Additions and alterations: Rear porch and baths, 1916.

Outbuildings: Formerly had brick smokehouse and log quarters.

Historical Data

Year of erection: 1835-5 (established by building accounts in owner's possession).

Built for (first owner): Andrew Jackson Donelson.

Architect or designer: Joseph Riell of Philadelphia.

Notable events and occupants: Woodwork from Cincinnati and Philadelphia. Visited by Martin van Buren.

"Tulip Grove, located on the land lying directly across the highway from the Hermitage, has its chief claim to distinction in the fact that it was built by General Andrew Jackson for his

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Tulip Grove

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adopted son and private secretary, Andrew Jackson Donelson. He was a nephew of General Jackson's wife.

"After the death of Andrew Jackson, the master of Tulip Grove, Major Andrew Jackson Donelson, became a statesman and a figure of national importance in his own right, being first charge d'affaires to the republic of Texas, later Minister to Prussia, and a candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Fillmore. After his death Tulip Grove passed out of the Donelson family.

"Mark R. Cockrill bought it as a gift to his daughter. Mrs. Watkins. In 1866 it was purchased by Thomas Ormsby Treanor, who with his family lived there many years. In 1890 it was bought by Horatio Berry, and now is the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charles Buntin."*

*Reference: History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee, compiled by The Garden Study Club of Nashville, Mrs. John Trotwood Moore collaborating. Ed. by Roberta Seawell Brandau. (The Parthenon Press, Nashville, 1936.) p. 159.

Prepared by

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